Carolina Observer.

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CONGRESS.

SECOND SESSION.....EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS.

FROM THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER, DEC. 2.

This day, at 12 o'clock, the PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES transmitted to both Houses of Congress, by the hands of his private Secretary, the following

MESSAGE:

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

Many important subjects will claim your attention during the present session, of which I shall endeavor to give, in aid of your deliberations, a just idea in this communication. I undertake this duty with confidence, from the vast extent of the interests on which I have to treat, and of their great importance to every portion of our union. I enter on it with zeal, from a thorough conviction that there never was a period, since the establishment of our revolution, when, regarding the condition of the civilized world, and its bearing on us, there was greater necessity for devotion in the public servants to their respective duties, for virtue, patriotism, and union, in our constituents.

Meeting in you a new Congress, I deem it proper to present this view of public affairs in greater detail than might otherwise be necessary. I do it, however, with peculiar satisfaction, from a knowledge that, in this respect, I shall comply more fully with the sound principles of our government. Our people being with us exclusively sovereign, it is indispensable that full information be laid before them on all important subjects, to enable them to exercise that high power with complete effect. If kept in the dark, they must be incompetent to it. We are all liable to error, and those who are engaged in the management of public affairs are more subject to excitement, and to be led astray by their particular interests and passions, than the great body of our constituents, who, living at home, in the result of their ordinary avocations, are calm but deeply interested spectators of events, and of the conduct of those who are parties to them. To the people, every department of the government, and every individual in each, are responsible, and the more full their information, the better they can judge of the wisdom of the policy pursued, and of the conduct of each in regard to it. From their dispassionate judgment, much aid may always be obtained, while their approbation will form the greatest incentive, and most gratifying reward, for virtuous actions, and the dread of their censure the best security against the abuse of their confidence. Their interests, in all vital questions, are the same, and the bond of sentiment, as well as by interest, will be proportionably strengthened as they are better informed of the real state of public affairs, especially in difficult conjunctures. It is by such knowledge that local prejudices and jealousies are surmounted, and that a national policy, extending its fostering care and protection to all the great interests of our Union, is formed and steadily adhered to.

A precise knowledge of our relations with foreign powers, as respects our negotiations and transactions with each, is thought to be particularly necessary. Equally necessary is it, that we should form a just estimate of our resources, revenue, and progress in every kind of improvement connected with the public prosperity and public defence. It is by rendering justice to other nations, that we may expect it from them. It is by our ability to resent injuries, and redress wrongs, that we may avoid them.

The Commissioners under the fifth article of the treaty of Ghent, having disagreed in their opinions respecting that portion of the boundary between the territories of the United States and of Great Britain, the establishment of which had been submitted to them, have made their respective reports, in compliance with that article, that the same might be referred to the decision of a friendly power. It being manifest, however, that it would be difficult, if not impossible, for any power to perform that office, without great delay and much inconvenience to itself, a proposal has been made by this government, and acceded to by that of Great Britain, to endeavor to establish that boundary by amicable negotiation. It appearing, from long experience, that no satisfactory arrangement could be formed of the commercial intercourse between the United States and the British colonies in this hemisphere, by legislative acts, while each party pursued its own course, without agreement or concert with the other, a proposal has been made to the British government to regulate this commerce by treaty, as it has been to arrange, in like manner, the just claims of the citizens of the United States inhabiting the states and territories bordering on the lakes and rivers which empty into the St. Laurence, to the navigation of that river to the ocean. For these and other objects of high importance to the interests of both parties, a negotiation has been opened with the British government, which, it is hoped, will have a satisfactory result.

The Commissioners under the sixth and last articles of the treaty of Ghent, having successfully closed their labors in relation to the sixth, have proceeded to the discharge of those relating to the seventh. Their progress in the extensive survey, required for the performance of their duties, justifies the presumption that it will be completed in the ensuing year.

The negotiation which had been long depending with the French government on several important subjects, and particularly for a just indemnity for losses sustained in the late wars by the citizens of the United States, under unjustifiable seizures and confiscations of their property, has not, as yet, had the desired effect. As this claim rests on the same principle with others which have been admitted by the French government, it is not perceived on what just grounds it can be rejected. A Minister will be immediately appointed to proceed to France, and resume the negotiation of this and other subjects which may arise between the two nations.

At the proposal of the Russian Imperial government, made through the minister of the Emperor residing here, a full power and instructions have been transmitted to the Minister of the United States at St. Petersburgh, to arrange, by amicable negotiation, the respective rights and interests of the two nations on the northwest coast of this continent. A similar proposal has been made by his Imperial Majesty to the government of Great Britain, which has likewise been acceded to. The government of the United States has been desirous, by this friendly proceeding, of manifesting the great value which they have invariably attached to the friendship of the Emperor, and their solicitude to cultivate the best understanding with his government. In the discussions to which this interest has given rise, and in the arrangements by which they may terminate, the occasion has been judged proper for asserting, as a principle in which the rights and interests of the United States are involved, that the American continents, by the free and independent condition which they have assumed and maintain, are henceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European powers.

Since the close of the last session of Congress, the commissioners and arbitrators for ascertaining and determining the amount of indemnification which may be due to citizens of the United States, under the decision of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia, in conformity to the convention concluded at St. Petersburgh, on the twelfth of July, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, have assembled in this city, and organized themselves as a board for the performance of the duties assigned to them by that treaty. The commission constituted under the eleventh article of the treaty of twenty-second February, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, between the United States and Spain, is also in session here; and as the term of three years, limited by the treaty for the execution of the trust, will expire before the period of the next regular meeting of Congress, the attention of the legislature will be drawn to the measures which may be necessary to accomplish the objects for which the commission was instituted.

In compliance with a resolution of the House of Representatives, adopted at their last session, instructions have been given to all the Ministers of the United States accredited to all the powers of Europe and America, to propose the proscription of the African slave trade, by classing it under the denomination, and inflicting on its perpetrators the punishment of piracy. Should this proposal be acceded to, it is not doubted that this odious and criminal practice will be promptly and entirely suppressed. It is earnestly hoped that it will be acceded to, from a firm belief that it is the most effectual expedient that can be adopted for the purpose.

At the commencement of the recent war between France and Spain, it was declared by the French Government that it would grant no commissions to privateers, and that neither the commerce of Spain herself, nor of neutral nations, should be molested by the naval force of France, except in the breach of a lawful blockade. This declaration, which appears to have been faithfully carried into effect, concurring with principles proclaimed and cherished by the United States from the first establishment of their independence, suggested the hopes that the time had arrived when the proposal for adopting it as a permanent and invariable rule in all future maritime wars, might meet the favorable consideration of the great European powers. Instructions have accordingly been given to our ministers with France, Russia, and Great Britain, to make those proposals to their respective governments; and when the friends of humanity reflect on the essential amelioration to the condition of the human race, which would result from the abolition of the private war on the sea, and on the great facility by which it might be accomplished requiring only the consent of a few sovereigns, an earnest hope is indulged that these overtures will meet with an attention, animated by the spirit in which they were made, and that they will ultimately be successful.

The ministers who were appointed to the Republics of Colombia and Buenos Ayres, during the last Session of Congress, proceeded, shortly afterwards, to their destinations. Of their arrival there, official intelligence has not yet been received.—The minister appointed to the Republic of Chili will sail in a few days. An early appointment will also be made to Mexico. A minister has been received from Colombia, and the other governments have been informed that ministers, or diplomatic agents of inferior grade, would be received from each, accordingly as they might prefer the one or the other.

The minister appointed to Spain proceeded, soon after his appointment, for Cadiz, the residence of the sovereign to whom he was accredited. In approaching that port, the frigate which conveyed him was warned off by the commander of the French squadron, by which it was blockaded, and not permitted to enter, although apprised, by the captain of the frigate, of the public character of the person whom he had on board, the landing of whom was the sole object of his proposed entry. This act, being considered an infringement of the rights of ambassadors and of nations, will form a just cause of complaint to the government of France, against the officer by whom it was committed.

The actual condition of the public finances more than realizes the favorable anticipations that were entertained of it at the opening of the last Session of Congress.—On the first of January, there was a balance in the Treasury of four millions two hundred and thirty seven thousand four hundred and twenty seven dollars and fifty-five cents. From that time to the thirtieth of September, the receipts amounted to upwards of sixteen millions one hundred thousand dollars, and the expenditures to eleven millions four hundred thousand dollars. During the fourth quarter of the year, it is estimated, that the receipts will, at least, equal the expenditures, and that there will remain in the Treasury, on the first day of January next, a surplus of nearly nine million of dollars.

On the first of January, eighteen hundred and twenty-five, a large amount of the war debt, and a part of the Revolutionary debt, become redeemable. Additional portions of the former will continue to become redeemable, annually, until the year eighteen hundred and thirty-five. It is believed, however, that if the United States remain at peace, the whole of that debt may be redeemed by the ordinary revenue of those years during that period, under the provision of the act of March third, eighteen hundred and seventeen, creating the sinking fund, and in that case the only part of the debt, that will remain after the year eighteen hundred and thirty-five, will be the seven millions of five per cent. stock subscribed to the Bank of the United States, and the three per cent. Revolutionary debt, amounting to thirteen millions two hundred and ninety-six thousand and ninety-nine dollars and six cents, both of which are redeemable at the pleasure of the government.

The state of the army in its organization and discipline, has been gradually improving for several years, and has now attained a high degree of perfection. The Military disbursements have been regularly made, and the accounts regularly and promptly rendered for settlement. The supplies of various descriptions have been of good quality, and regularly issued at all of the posts. A system of economy and accountability has been introduced into every branch of the service, which admits of a little additional improvement. This desirable state has been attained by the act recognizing the staff of the army, passed on the fourteenth day of April, eighteen hundred and eighteen.

The monies appropriated for fortifications have been regularly and economically applied, and all the works advanced as rapidly as the amount appropriated would admit. Three important works will be completed in the course of this year; that is, Fort Washington, Fort Delaware, and the Fort at the Rigolets, in Louisiana.

The Board of Engineers, and the Typographical Corps, have been in constant and active service, in surveying the Coast, and projecting the works necessary for its defence.

The Military Accademy has attained a degree of perfection in its discipline and instruction, equal, as is believed, to any institution of its kind in any country.

The money appropriated for the use of the Ordnance Department, has been regularly and economically applied. The fabrication of arms at the national armories, and by contract with the Department, has been gradually improving in its quality and cheapness. It is believed that their quality is now such as to admit of but little improvement.

The completion of the fortifications renders it necessary that there should be a suitable appropriation for the purpose of fabricating the cannon and carriages necessary for those works.

Under the appropriation of five thousand dollars, for exploring the Western waters for the location of a site for a Western Armory, a commission was constituted, consisting of Colonel McRee, Colonel Lee, and Captain Talbot, who have been engaged in exploring the country. They have not yet reported the result of their labors, but it is believed that they will be prepared to do it, at an early part of the session of Congress.

During the month of June last, General Ashly and his party, who were trading under a license from the government, were attacked by the Ricarees while peaceably trading with the Indians, at their request. Several of the party were killed and wounded and their property taken or destroyed.

Colonel Leavenworth, who commanded Fort Atkinson, at the Council Bluffs, the most Western post, apprehending that the hostile spirit of the Ricarees would extend to other tribes in that quarter, and that thereby the lives of the traders on the Missouri, and the peace of the Frontier would be endangered, took immediate measures to check the evil.

With a detachment of the regiment stationed at the Bluffs, he successfully attacked the Ricaree village, and it is hoped that such an impression has been made on them, as well as on the other tribes of the Missouri, as will prevent a future occurrence of hostility.

The report of the Secretary of War, which is herewith transmitted, will exhibit, in greater detail, the condition of the Department in its various branches, and the progress which has been made in its administration, during the three first quarters of the year.

I transmit a return of the militia of the several states, according to the last reports which have been made by the proper officers in each, to the Department of War.—By reference to this return, it will be seen that it is not complete, although great exertions have been made to make it so. As the defence, and even the liberties, of the country must depend, in times of imminent danger, on the militia, it is of the highest importance that it be well organized, armed, and disciplined, throughout the Union. The report of the Secretary of War shews the progress made during the three first quarters of the present year, by the application of the fund appropriated for arming the militia. Much difficulty is found in distributing the arms according to the act of Congress providing for it, from the failure of the proper Departments in many of the states, to make regular returns. The act of May the twelfth, one thousand eight hundred and twenty, provides that the system of tactics and regulation of the various corps in the regular army, shall be extended to the militia. Their act has been very imperfectly executed, from the want of uniformity in the organization of the militia, proceeding from the defects of the system itself, and especially in its application to the main arm of the public defence. It is tho't that this important subject, in all its branches, merits the attention of Congress.

The report of the Secretary of the Navy, which is now communicated, furnishes an account of the administration of that department, for the three first quarters of the present year, with the progress made in augmenting the navy, and the manner in which the vessels in commission have been employed.

The usual force has been maintained in the Mediterranean Sea, the Pacific Ocean, and along the Atlantic Coast, and has afforded the necessary protection to our commerce in those seas.

In the West Indies and Gulf of Mexico, our naval force has been augmented, by the addition of several small vessels, provided for by the "act authorising an additional naval force for the suppression of piracy:" pased by Congress at their last sess on.—That armament has been eminently successful in the accomplishment of its object.—The piracies by which our commerce in the neighborhood of the Island of Cuba had been afflicted, have been repressed, and the confidence of our merchants, in a great measure restored.

The patriotic enterprize and zeal of Commodore Porter, to whom the command of the expedition was confided, has been fully seconded by the officers and men, under his command. And, in reflecting with high satisfaction, on the honorable manner in which they have sustained the reputation of their country and its navy, the sentiment is alloyed only by a concern, that, in the fulfilment of that arduous service, the diseases incident to the season, and to the climate in which it was discharged, have deprived the nation of many useful lives, and among them of several officers of great promise.

In the month of August, a very malignant fever made its appearance at Thompson's Island, which threatened the destruction of our station there. Many perished, and the commanding officer was severely attacked. Uncertain as to his fate, and knowing that most of the medical officers had been rendered incapable of discharging their duties, it was thought expedient to send to that post an officer of rank and experience, with several skilful surgeons, to ascertain the origin of the fever, and the probability of its recurrence there in future seasons; to furnish every assistance to those who were suffering, and if practicable, to avoid the necessity of abandoning so important a station. Commodore Rogers, with a promptitude that did him honor, cheerfully accepted that trust, and has discharged it in the manner anticipated from his skill and patriotism. Before his arrival, Commodore Porter, with the greater part of the squadron, had removed from the Island, and returned to the United States, in consequence of the prevailing sickness. Much useful information has however been obtained, as to the state of the Island, and great relief afforded to those who had been necessarily left there.

Although our expedition, co-operating with an invigorated administration of the government of the Island of Cuba, and with the corresponding active exertions of a British naval force in the same seas, have almost destroyed the unlicensed piracies from that Island, the success of our exertions has not been effectual to suppress the same crime, under other pretences and colors, in the neighboring island of Porto Rico. They have been committed there under the abusive issue of Spanish commissions. At an early period of the present year, remonstrances were made to the governor of that island, by an agent, who was sent for the purpose, against those outrages on the peaceful commerce of the United States, of which many had occurred. That officer, professing his own want of authority to make satisfaction for our just complaints, answered only by a reference of them to the government of Spain. The minister of the United States to that court was specially instructed to urge the necessity of the immediate and effectual interposition of that government, directing restitution and indemnity for wrongs already committed, and interdicting the repetition of them. The Minister, as has been seen, was debarred access to the Spanish government, and, in the mean time, several new cases of flagrant outrage have occurred, and citizens of the United States in the Island of Porto Rico have suffered, and others been threatened with assassination, for asserting their unquestionable rights, even before the lawful tribunals of the country.

The usual orders have been given to all our public ships, to seize American vessels engaged in the slave trade, and bring them in for adjudication, and I have the gratification to state, that not one so employed has been discovered, and there is good reason to believe that our flag is now seldom, if at all, disgraced by that traffic.

It is a source of great satisfaction, that we are always enabled to recur to the conduct of our Navy with pride and commendation. As a means of national defence, it enjoys the public confidence, and is steadily assuming additional importance. It is submitted whether a more efficient and equally economical organization of it might not, in several respects, be effected. It is sppposed that higher grades, than now exist by law, would be useful. They would afford well merited rewards to those who have long and faithfully served their country; present the best incentives to good conduct, and the best means of ensuring a proper discipline; destroy the inequality in that respect between the military and naval services, and relieve our officers from many inconveniences and mortifications, which occur when our vessels meet those of other nations—ours being the only service in which those grades do not exist.

A report of the Post Master General, which accompanies this communication, will show the present state of the Post Office Department, and its general operations for some years past.

There is established by law eighty eight thousand six hundred miles of post roads, on which the mail is now transported eighty-five thousand seven hundred miles; and contracts have been made for its transportation on all the established routes, with one or two exceptions. There are five thousand two hundred and forty post offices in the Union, and as many postmasters.—The gross amount of postage which accrued from the first of July, one thousand eight hundred and twenty two, to the first of July, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, was one million one hundred and fourteen thousand three hundred and forty-five dollars and twelve cents. During the same period, the expenditures of the Post Office Department amounted to one million one hundred and sixty-nine thousand eight hundred and eighty-five dollars and fifty-one cents: and consisted of the following items: compensation to Post-Masters, three hundred and fifty-three thousand nine hundred and ninety-five dollars and ninety-nine cents; incidental expenses, thirty thousand eight hundred and sixty-six dollars and thirty-seven cents; transportation of the mail, seven hundred and eighty-four thousand six hundred dollars and eight cents; payments into the treasury, four hundred and twenty-three dollars and eight cents. On the first of July last, there was due to the Department, from post-masters, one hundred and thirty-five thousand two hundred and forty-five dollars and twenty-eight cents: from late postmasters and contractors, two hundred and fifty-six thousand seven hundred and forty-nine dollars and thirty-one cents; making a total amount of balances due to the Department, of three hundred and ninety-one thousand nine hundred and ninety four dollars and fifty nine cents. These balances embrace all delinquencies of post-masters and contractors which have taken place since the organization of the Department. There was due by the Department to contractors, on the first day of July last, twenty-six thousand five hundred and forty-eight dollars and sixty-four cents.

The transportation of the mail, within five years past, has been greatly extended, and the expenditures of the Department proportionably increased. Although the postage which has accrued within the last three years, has fallen short of the expenditures two hundred and sixty-two thousand eight hundred and twenty-one dollars and forty-six cents, it appears that collections have been made, from the outstanding balances, to meet the principal part of the current demands.

It is estimated that not more than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars of the above balances can be collected, and that a considerable part of this sum can only be

realized by a resort to legal process. Some improvement in the receipts for postage, is expected. A prompt attention to the collection of moneys received by post-masters, it is believed, will enable the Department to continue its operations without aid from the Treasury, unless the expenditures shall be increased by the establishment of new mail routes.

A revision of some parts of the post-office law may be necessary; and it is submitted, whether it would not be proper to provide for the appointment of post-masters, where the compensation exceeds a certain amount, by nomination to the Senate, as other officers of the general government are appointed.

Having communicated my views to Congress, at the commencement of the last session, respecting the encouragement which ought to be given to our manufactures, and the principles on which it should be founded, I have only to add, that those views remain unchanged, and that the present state of those countries with which we have the most immediate political relations, and greatest commercial intercourse, tends to confirm them. Under this impression, I recommend a review of the tariff, for the purpose of affording such additional protection to those articles which we are prepared to manufacture, or which are more immediately connected with the defence and independence of the country.

The actual state of the public accounts, furnishes additional evidence of the efficiency of the present system of accountability, in relation to the public expenditure. Of the moneys drawn from the Treasury since the 4th of March, one thousand eight hundred and seventeen, the sum remaining unaccounted for, on the thirtieth of September last, is more than a million and a half of dollars less than on the thirtieth of September preceding; and during the same period a reduction of nearly a million of dollars has been made in the amount of the unsettled accounts for moneys advanced previously to the fourth of March, one thousand eight hundred and seventeen. It will be obvious that, in proportion as the mass of accounts of the latter description is diminished, by settlement, the difficulty of settling the residue is increased, from the consideration, that, in many instances, it can be obtained only by legal process. For more precise details on this subject, I refer to a report from the First Comptroller of the Treasury.

The sum which was appropriated at the last session, for the repair of the Cumberland road, has been applied with good effect to that object. A final report has not yet been received from the agent who was appointed to superintend it. As soon as it is received, it shall be communicated to Congress.

Many patriotic and enlightened citizens, who have made the subject an object of particular investigation, have suggested an improvement of still greater importance. They are of opinion that the waters of the Chesapeake and Ohio may be connected together, by one continued canal, and at an expense far short of the value and importance of the object to be obtained. If this could be accomplished, it is impossible to calculate the beneficial consequences which would result from it. A great portion of the produce of the very fertile country through which it would pass, would find a market through that channel. Troops might be moved with great facility in war, with cannon, and every kind of munition, and in either direction. Connecting the Atlantic with the western country, in a line passing through the seat of the national government, it would contribute essentially to strengthen the bond of Union itself. Believing, as I do, that Congress possess the right to appropriate money for such a national object, (the jurisdiction remaining to the states through which the canal would pass,) I submit it to your consideration whether it may not be advisable to authorize, by an adequate appropriation, the employment of a suitable number of the officers of the corps of engineers, to examine the unexplored ground during the next season, and to report their opinion thereon. It will likewise be proper to extend their examination to the several routes through which the waters of the Ohio may be connected, by canals, with those of Lake Erie.

As the Cumberland road will require annual repairs, and Congress have not thought it expedient to recommend to the states an amendment to the constitution, for the purpose of vesting in the United States a power to adopt and execute a system of internal improvement, it is also submitted to your consideration, whether it may not be expedient to authorize the Executive to enter into an arrangement with the several states through which the road passes, to establish tolls, each within its limits, for the purpose of defraying the expense of future repairs, and of providing, also, by suitable penalties, for its protection against future injuries.

The act of Congress of the seventh of May, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, appropriated the sum of twenty-two thousand seven hundred dollars for the purpose of erecting two piers as a shelter for vessels from ice, near Cape Henlopen, Delaware Bay. To effect the object of the act, the officers of the board of Engineers, with Commodore Bainbridge, were directed to prepare plans and estimates of piers sufficient to answer the purpose intended by the act. It appears by their report, which accompanies the documents from the War Department, that the appropriation is not adequate to the purpose intended: and, as the piers would be of great service, both to the navigation of the Delaware Bay, and the protection of vessels on the adjacent parts of the coast, I submit for the consideration of Congress whether additional and sufficient appropriations should not be made.

The board of Engineers were also directed to examine and survey the entrance of the harbor of the port of Presque Isle in Pennsylvania, in order to make an estimate of the expense of removing the obstructions to the entrance, with a plan of the best mode of effecting the same under the appropriation for that purpose, by act of Congress passed 3d March last. The report of the board accompanies the papers from the War Department, and is submitted for the consideration of Congress.

A strong hope has been long entertained, founded on the heroic struggles of the Greeks, that they would succeed in their contest, and resume their equal station among the nations of the earth. It is believed that the whole civilized world takes a deep interest in their welfare. Their cause and their name have protected them from dangers, which might ere this have overwhelmed any other people. The ordinary calculations of interest, and of acquisition, with a view to aggrandizement, which mingle so much in the transactions of nations, seem to have no effect in regard to them. From the facts which have come to our knowledge, there is good cause to believe that their enemy has lost forever all dominion over them; that Greece will become again an independent nation. That she may obtain that rank, is the object of our most ardent wishes.

It was stated at the commencement of the last session, that a great effort was then making in Spain and Portugal to improve the condition of the people of those countries, and that it appeared to be conducted with extraordinary moderation. It need scarcely be remarked, that the result has been, so far, very different from what was then anticipated. Of events in that quarter of the globe, with which we have so much intercourse, and from which we derive our origin, we have always been anxious and interested spectators. The citizens of the United States cherish sentiments the most friendly, in favor of the liberty and happiness of their fellow men on that side of the Atlantic. In the wars of the European powers, in matters relating to themselves, we have never taken any part, nor does it comport with our policy so to do. It is only when our rights are invaded, or seriously menaced, that we resent injuries, or make preparation for our defence. With the movements in this hemisphere, we are, of necessity, more immediately connected, and by causes which must be obvious to all enlightened and impartial observers. The political system of the allied powers, is essentially different, in this respect, from that of America. This difference proceeds from that which exists in their respective governments. And to the defence of our own, which has been achieved by the loss of so much blood and treasure, and matured by the wisdom of their most enlightened citizens, and under which we have enjoyed unexampled felicity, this whole nation is devoted. We owe it therefore to candor, and to the amicable relations existing between the United States and those powers, to declare that we should consider any attempt on their part to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere, as dangerous to our peace and safety. With the existing colonies or dependences of any European power, we have not interfered, and shall not interfere. But, with the governments who have declared their independence, and maintained it, and whose independence we have, on great consideration, and on just principles, acknowledged, we could not view any interposition for the purpose of oppressing them, or controlling, in any other manner, their destiny, by any European power, in any other light than as the manifestation of an unfriendly disposition towards the United States. In the war between these new governments and Spain, we declared our neutrality at the time of their recognition, and to this we have adhered, and shall continue to adhere, provided no change shall occur which, in the judgment of the competent authorities of this government, shall make a corresponding change, on the part of the United States, indispensable to their security.

The late events in Spain and Portugal, shew that Europe is still unsettled. Of this important fact, no stronger proof can be adduced, than that the allied powers should have thought it proper, on any principle satisfactory to themselves, to have interposed, by force, in the internal concerns of Spain. To what extent such interposition may be carried, on the same principle, is a question, in which all independent powers, whose governments differ from theirs, are interested; even those most remote, and surely none more so than the United States. Our policy, in regard to Europe, which was adopted at an early stage of the wars which have so long agitated that quarter of the globe, nevertheless remains the same, which is, not to interfere in the internal concerns of any of its powers; to consider the government *de facto* as the legitimate government for us; to cultivate friendly relations with it, and to preserve those relations by a frank, firm, and manly policy, meeting, in all instances, the just claims of every power; submitting to injuries from none. But, in regard to those continents, circumstances are eminently and conspicuously different. It is impossible that the allied powers should extend their political system to any portion of either continent, without endangering our peace and happiness; nor can any one believe our Southern Brethren if left to themselves, would adopt it of their own accord. It is equally impossible, therefore, that we should behold such interposition, in any form, with indifference. If we look to the comparative strength and resources of Spain and those new governments, and their distance from each other, it must be obvious that she can never subdue them. It is still the true policy of the United States, to leave the parties to themselves, in the hope that other powers will pursue the same course.

If we compare the present condition of our Union with its actual state at the close of our Revolution, the history of the world furnishes no example of a progress in improvement, in all the important circumstances which constitute the happiness of a nation, which bears any resemblance to it. At the first epoch, our population did not exceed three millions. By the last census it amounted to about ten millions; and, what is more extraordinary, it is almost altogether native—for the emigration from other countries has been inconsiderable. At the first epoch, half the territory within our acknowledged limits was uninhabited and a wilderness. Since then, new territory has been acquired, of vast extent, comprising within it many rivers, particularly the Mississippi, the navigation of which to the ocean was of the highest importance to the original states. Over this territory our population has expanded in every direction, and new states have been established, almost equal in number, to those which formed the first bond of our Union. This expansion of our population, and accession of new States to our Union, have had the happiest effect on all its highest interests. That it has eminently augmented our resources, and added to our strength and respectability as a power, is admitted by all. But, it is not in these important circumstances only, that this happy effect is felt. It is manifest that, by enlarging the basis of our system and increasing the number of States, the system itself has been greatly strengthened in both its branches. Consolidation and disunion have thereby been rendered equally impracticable. Each government, confiding in its own strength, has less to apprehend from the other, and, in consequence, each enjoying a greater freedom of action, is rendered more efficient for all the purposes for which it was instituted. It is unnecessary to treat, here, of the vast improvement made in the system itself, by the adoption of this constitution, and of its happy effect in elevating the character, and in protecting the rights of the nation, as well as of individuals. To what then do we owe these blessings? It is known to all, that we derive them from the excellence of our institutions. Ought we not then to adopt every measure, which may be necessary to perpetuate them?

JAMES MONROE.

Washington, Dec. 2, 1823.

Legislature of North-Carolina.

SENATE....TUESDAY, DEC. 2.

Mr. Cameron from the Committee on Internal Improvement, to whom was referred a bill to authorise the making of a Turnpike road from Ashville by the Warm Springs to the Tennessee Line, and to incorporate a Company for that purpose, reported the said bill with sundry amendments, which were agreed to, and on motion of Mr. Love, the further consideration of the bill was postponed until Thursday next.

The bill to amend and extend an act passed in 1806, for the more convenient administration of justice, was amended by Mr. Seawell and Mr. Cameron, and on motion of Mr. Sneed, was committed to a committee of the whole, and made the order of the day for Thursday next.

Wednesday, Dec. 3.—Mr. Bowers presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That a select committee be appointed to enquire into the expediency of reducing the tax laid on trading vessels in navigable streams, and that they report by bill or otherwise.

This resolution was amended, on motion of Mr. Welborn, by inserting the words "and on Pedlars" after the word "streams," and was further amended by Mr. Cameron, by striking out the words "a select committee be appointed," and inserting the words, "the committee of Finance be instructed"—and the resolution as amended, was agreed to.

Mr. Martin, from the committee on Criminal Law, to whom was referred the bill to compel an executor or an executrix to give security in certain cases, reported the said bill with sundry amendments, which were agreed to, and on motion of Mr. Sneed, ordered to be printed.

Mr. Pearsall presented the following Resolution, viz:

Whereas many of the good citizens of this State, sustain great inconvenience and injury from liberties given to slaves, on days of musters and elections within the several counties of this state to attend the same: *Therefore resolved*, That the committee of Propositions and Grievances, be instructed to enquire into the expediency of passing an act to prevent all slaves from attending musters and elections in this state, under proper restrictions; and that they report by bill or otherwise —Agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Bryan,

Resolved, That the committee of the whole House, to whom was committed the bill to amend the act of 1816, for the more convenient administration of justice, be instructed to enquire into the expediency of dividing the State into Districts, composed of two or more counties each, for the purpose of holding a Superior Court of Law and Equity in each of said Districts, at some convenient place therein, and that they report thereon.—Agreed to.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Monday, Dec. 1.—Mr. Stanly from the Judiciary Committee, who were instructed to enquire into the expediency of altering the law of Landlord and Tenant, reported a bill to secure the rights of Landlords and Tenants, holding over the expiration of their terms—Report concurred in—the bill read for the first time and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Shepherd presented a bill to amend an act passed in 1777 for appointing sheriffs, and directing their duty in office, and for obligating the late sheriffs and collectors who are in arrear to account for and pay the same, and for other purposes—Read the first time.

Mr. Blackledge presented a bill to alter the mode of electing sheriffs; and to vest the right thereof in the free people of this State—Read the first time and ordered to be printed.

Mr. M'Farland presented a bill to repeal in part an act passed in 1822, to regulate the patrol of Richmond county—Read the first time.

Mr. Mebane, from the committee on Internal Improvements, to whom was referred the bill concerning the navigation of Neuse River, made a report recommending the passage of a bill to facilitate the Navigation of Neuse River—Report concurred in and bill read the first time.

The following resolution was submitted by Mr. Jos. A. Hill:

Resolved, That the committee on Education be instructed to enquire into the expediency of establishing by law Schools throughout this State in conformity to the 41st section of the Constitution, which makes it the duty of the Legislature to establish Schools for the convenient instruction of the youth of the State, and to provide for the due encouragement and promotion of useful learning; and that the said committee report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Stanly from the Judiciary committee, to whom was referred the Bill to repeal the 5th and 6th sections of an act passed in the year 1820, to prevent the marriage of infant females, made a report, recommending that the said bill be passed into a law—The report was concurred in and the bill read the first and second time.

The House proceeded to consider the resolution presented by Mr. Alston on Saturday last, which being read, Mr. Iredell moved that it be amended by striking out the whole except the word "Resolved," and insert the following amendment, viz.

That the Public Treasurer be directed to report to this General Assembly the amount of moneys he has received during the last two years, appropriated to the Board of Internal Improvements, and the amount he has paid out of the said fund according to law; and

Resolved further, That the Board of Internal Improvements be directed to lay before this General Assembly a condensed statement of their operations, to the 1st of November, 1823, exhibiting an account of moneys received from the Public Treasurer and of disbursements made by them: specifying the objects to which such moneys have been applied and accompanied with such remarks and explanations as the Board may think proper to make.

The amendment was concurred in, and the resolution as amended passed.

Tuesday, Dec. 2.—On motion of Mr. Shepherd, a message was sent to the Senate, proposing to ballot immediately for Solicitor for the 6th Judicial Circuit and stating that the name of Hugh M. Stokes is withdrawn from nomination. The message was agreed to and a balloting took place, which resulted in the election of Joseph Wilson, Esq.

The house proceeded to consider the petition of sundry citizens of Bladen and Cumberland, presented by Mr. Ashe, on the 23rd ult.—Referred to the Committee of Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Fisher presented the following resolutions.

RESOLVE: *First*, That the Senators in Congress from this state be instructed, and our Representatives be requested, as a means of preserving the rights of the people, in the choice of President, to withhold their countenance from the practice of meeting in Caucus by the Members of Congress; and that they use their exertions to prevent a nomination from being made in Caucus, of persons to fill the office of President and Vice President of the United States.

Second, That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives requested, to bring before Congress, and urge the passage of an amendment to the Constitution providing that each state in the Union shall be laid off at stated periods, into Electoral districts, for the election of Presidents and Vice Presidents of the United States.

Third, That the Governor of this State transmit a copy of the foregoing Preamble and Resolutions to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Fourth, That the Governor transmit a copy of the foregoing Preamble and Resolutions to the executive of each state in the Union, with a request that they be laid before their respective Legislatures.

INTELLIGENCE.

FOREIGN.

LATEST FROM ENGLAND.

NEW-YORK, DEC. 1.—By the arrival of the packet ship *Columbia*, Capt. Rogers, from Liverpool, we have intelligence from England seven days later than was before received. The Columbus sailed on the 2d November, and our files of papers are to the first of that month.

General Riego has been tried and condemned to death—Cavia was his Judge.—The crime in the act of accusation against him was, for having voted as a Deputy of the Cortes, the deposition of the King, and the nomination of the Regency.

On the authority of the London Courier, it is stated, that France is to continue the military occupation of Spain to a certain extent, and until the government of Ferdinand is entirely and firmly re-established. In pursuance of this plan, Cadiz will be occupied by 10,000 troops, Madrid by 5000, and 15,000 will take up positions along the line of the Ebro. One great point, says the Courier, which it is intended to accomplish, if possible, is the entire disbanding of the Spanish army, as now constituted, and to remodel it upon a totally different system.

The Madrid dates are to the 20th of October, when the emigration of those who were employed under the Cortes, still continued. 350 families had left Madrid, and many others were preparing to set off. Passports for *foreign* countries are refused; in consequence of which, the greatest confusion prevailed. The fate of Ballasteros was not known at the capital of Spain at the last dates: it is stated, in a letter from Madrid of the 19th, that his army had not been disbanded. A letter, however, from Paris, of the 25th, says, that the disbanding of Ballasteros' army is effecting without experiencing any of the obstacles which were apprehended. All the Ministers, except that of State, had arrived, and scarcely a day passes without a new decree being issued.

A private letter from Madrid, dated the 20th, states that the strong representations made by M. de Chateaubriand, through M. de Talaru, and the still stronger remonstrances of the Duke d'Angouleme, have had the desired effect on Ferdinand; the sentences of the Regency are not confirmed, and the execution of his own decrees are suspended. It is whispered, that the Duke explicitly declared, in his estrance, that, if his Majesty did not revoke the decrees, which were calculated to produce civil war, he would withdraw all the French troops, and leave him entirely to his own resources. Ferdinand, it is said, was fool-hardy enough to say, "let us withdraw, I am powerful enough with them;" but his Minister Confessor thought otherwise; and though he was first to suggest the plans of vengeance, he now is alarmed for the consequences and the safety of his own dear person, which would inevitably be one of the first victims of popular vengeance.

Advices from Bayonne of the 13th October, state, that the King was to leave Seville about the 18th of this month. Several Decrees were preparing, but were not to be published till the result of the order is known, which has been sent by the King to the Constitutional Commanders of the fortresses, especially those in Catalonia, respecting whom some apprehensions are entertained. The first of these decrees grants a general amnesty, but in the Metropolitan manner; a great number of individuals, who have acted a prominent part in the Constitutional Government, are still outlawed, and many others condemned to exile, or to punishments more or less severe.

The accounts from Cadiz, state, that Dounay had taken the command of the city; part of the French troops left there on the 10th.

Among numerous decrees issued by Ferdinand, since his arrival at Seville, are the following:—For a funeral service to be performed in all the churches in the kingdom "for the repose of the souls of those who have died since the 7th of March, 1823, in the support of God's cause, and mainte[nance] For the formation of a junto to select books "which are proper to form those who may be worthy supports of the altar, the throne, and the country!"

The *Inquisition* is re-established; and the General of the Capuchins appointed Grand Inquisitor.

If the account which we find in the Morning Chronicle of the 30th of Oct. is correct, it would appear that the Emperor of Russia is turning his attention to the affairs of South America. The Chronicle states that the Emperor Alexander has received all his accredited agents from the Brazils, and *an expedition is forthwith to be forwarded from Spain, under the flag of that nation, against the REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA.* This expedition is to consist of 12,000 soldiers, nominally Spaniards, but fitted out at the expense of France, attended by French Artillery, and Engineer officers. Some other English papers, in alluding to this subject, remark, that *England will make a stand against any attack on South America by Russia.*

The coronation of Pope Leo XII. took place on the 5th of October.

The King of Portugal has prohibited the entrance of all foreign newspapers into his kingdom.

The great Council of Geneva have passed a law, suspending the liberty of the press, for one year.

On the 8th of August, a fire broke out in the establishment belonging to the United Brethren, at Sarepta, by which three fourths of the whole settlement were laid in ashes.

Accounts from Stockholm, of the 15th of October, mention that Mr. Hughes, the American Charge d'Affairs, would set off in a few days for St. Petersburgh, on a mission to the Russian Government.

FALL OF PORTO CAVELLO.

Extracts of Letters from Laguira, of the 12th and 13th ultimo.

"On the evening of the 8th instant, the troops under Generals Paez and Bermudez made an assault on Porto Cavello, and entered the town at half past four, putting to the sword every man found making resistance.

"General Calzareo, and Colonel Carmona fell at the commencement of the attack. On the 10th, the only remaining fort, (the citadel at the entrance of the harbour) surrendered to the Colombian arms. The garrison to be sent to Cuba."

We may now say, and we say it with unfeigned delight, that not a single Spanish soldier, pollutes the free soil of Colombia. She stands self-emancipated, and may defy the united forces of the old world again to subjugate her. For this glorious privilege she is mainly indebted to her own heroic Bolivar.—*N. Y. American.*

An American gentleman has arrived at New Orleans from Tampico, who states that war had been declared against Spain by the Mexican government, and that orders had been issued for every Spanish creature in Havana to leave Mexico in 60 days, and all European Spaniards in four months. He also gives the intelligence that all Spanish property, arriving after the latter period was to be seized, and all Spanish vessels met at sea to be captured. The declaration of war is a most important event, and would not have been hazarded, we may presume, unless the Mexican government had received positive information of hostile designs on the part of Spain and France, or, rather, of the Holy Alliance.—*Nat. Gaz.*

Mail Robbers.—In Kentucky, Rees has been found guilty of robbing the mail—the first conviction in that state. In Baltimore last week, John Eminonheiser has been tried for a similar offence, and sentenced to 7 years imprisonment.

A Snake Hunt.—A party of sportsmen in Milford, Ct. lately killed 750 black snakes before their return.

OBSERVER.

FAYETTEVILLE:

THURSDAY MORNING DECEMBER 11 1823

The Cape-Fear, *we are happy to state, is now* navigable. *The Steam-Boat* Henrietta, *start*ed on *Saturday evening for Wilmington, and will be back, it is probable, this morning. Sev*eral Flats, *loaded with Cotton and Flour, have* also sailed. *Business will now revive, and our trade will not again be interrupted during* the season. *Our market has already exp rienced* the good *effects of this new state of things; and our country friends will henceforth be enabled to procure their supplies without difficulty.*

A rise in the price of Salt, *in consequence of* this scarcity, *is not likely to happen again; and we trust our merchants will profit by the expe*rience of this season, *and lay in a stock before the river gets down. It is certainly bad policy to rise in this article; for the temporary gain is always overbalanced by the certain loss in the end. It is oftentimes necessary to make* small *sacrifices, to insure great advantages.*

The President's Message was not received, until the matter for our fourth page was in type; we were consequently compelled to occupy our first, to the exclusion of advertisements, or we should have had little room for any thing else besides the message. We trust our advertising friends will excuse us for this once.

Messrs. Gales & Son have been elected Public Printers of this state, for the ensuing year, by a majority of 42 votes, over Messrs. Bell & Lawrence.

NORTH-CAROLINA GOLD.

We were shown, a few days since, by Benjamin G. Barker, Esq. a lump of virgin gold, in its natural state, which weighed nearly four hundred pennyweights. It was procured in Cabarrus, and is, probably, on account of its purity, brilliancy, and shape, the handsomest specimen of North-Carolina gold that has yet been found. Mr. Barker intends to take it with him to New-York, that the incredulous in that city may have ocular proof, that pure gold in masses, is actually found in this state.

CONGRESS.

The first session of the Eighteenth Congress, commenced in Washington on the 1st instant, a quorum of both Houses being present on the first day. Henry Clay was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives, on the first ballot, by a majority of 97 votes, over Mr. Barbour, late Speaker. The President's Message was communicated to Congress on Tuesday, the 2d instant; and we have the pleasure of laying it before our readers in this week's paper. Any remarks of ours, on this interesting document, are unnecessary; it will speak for itself. We are particularly well pleased with that part of it which refers to the late events in Spain, and the probable views of the Holy Alliance; and we are confident that the views of the President will be reciprocated by the whole American people. It is time that our government should speak out, and the despots of Europe understand, that any attempt to extend their system to this quarter of the globe, will be resisted; that an attack on South America, will be considered as an act of hostility against ourselves, and will be treated as such. If South America be compelled to succumb to the power of the Holy League, is it improbable to suppose, that our turn will come next?

The present state of the world, and the uncertainty which rests upon the future, give a peculiar importance to the question, Who shall be our *next* President? And we ask the people seriously to reflect on this question, and then say, whether they would prefer to see their country assume an attitude of defence, and be prepared to repel any attack on her rights and liberties, or to have her fortifications abandoned, her navy and her army crippled, and all her energies paralized, by the adoption of a niggardly *economy*, or, more properly, *parsimony*? This is not an idle question: the proceedings of the *radical party* in Congress, for three or four years past, will show that it is full of meaning.

RALEIGH REGISTER.

The editors of the *Register*, now that the election of *Public Printer* is over, are coming out again; and in their paper of last Friday, they have condescended to honor us with their notice, in which are exhibited more warmth and irritability than we thought dwelt in their gentle natures. Really, we are much obliged to these sage gentlemen, these classical editors, these modest and dignified advocates of Mr. Crawford, for the kind lesson they have given us; and altho' we cannot boast their erudition, and quote a scrap of Latin and a line from Shakspeare, to grace our every editorial paragraph, yet we will reciprocate their attention in our more homely phrase. It is our misfortune, that we are a *Printer* by profession; it cannot, therefore, be expected, that we should equal our learned tutors in their elegance of diction, beautiful tropes, and appropriate metaphors, nor that we should be so ready in classical allusions: we must content ourselves with plain language and simple style. With these preliminary remarks, we will proceed to a more particular examination of the article in the Register; and we promise, that our language towards them shall at least be as *moderate*, as that which they have used in speaking of us.

Their first paragraph contains nothing worthy of particular notice, and we shall therefore pass it by with only one or two incidental remarks. From the assertion of the editors, that all the papers which do not support Mr. Crawford, "unite in *abusing him*," we suppose they would have it inferred, that *all* the editors enlisted in his cause, like the editors of the *Register*, pursue a *manly* and *dignified* course: but unhappily, the example of the *Register* has been held up for imitation in vain! No papers, we unhesitatingly assert,—at the risk, too, of again exposing ourselves to the charge of "misrepresentation and abuse,"—have abounded more in defamation, than the papers engaged on the side of the radical candidate: as examples, we refer to the *National Advocate* and the *Washington City Gazette*, Mr. Crawford's leading journals, the latter of which is fed from the crumbs of the Treasury Department. The "*voces ambiguas*," with which the Register concludes its first paragraph, will not be at all "ambiguous" to nine-tenths of its readers: they will be perfectly unintelligible. The editors should have recollected this; for if it was their object to make the people acquainted with "the great and only aim of certain editors," who are opposed to radical doctrines, they have completely defeated their purpose, by speaking in an "unknown tongue." Their readers, or a greater part of them, are not so highly favored as themselves, in having a *Latin Dictionary*, or a *Book of Quotations*, always at hand.

But it is their second paragraph which claims our most serious attention, because in that the editors have put forth all their strength, and stretched their powers to the utmost, to overwhelm us; and we doubt not they are even now felicitating themselves on the signal overthrow which we have received. But we have survived the shock; and as this was their greatest effort, we feel quite safe for the future.

The Register first commends us for our former "decency of language, moderation of sentiment," &c. on purpose, we presume, to make us feel more acutely what follows—just as a parent, before correcting a wayward child, reminds him of his previous good conduct, dutiful obedience, and the like. For the sake of method, we will place the charges preferred against us by the Register, under separate heads, and reply to them in order:

1. That we are guilty of "misrepresentation and abuse;"

2. That we have "given loose to individual aspersions;" and

3. That we have "endeavored to constitute ourselves the censor of *their* press!"

All these charges, it seems, are raised on an editorial paragraph in the Observer of the 27th ultimo, respecting the gratuitous distribution of certain political pamphlets from the Register Office; but we deny that the article alluded to in the least justifies these grave accusations. As to the first, that paragraph contained not a word of abuse; and we challenge these lynx-eyed editors to put their finger on any part of it, that can be tortured or twisted into an *abusive* meaning: if they cannot do this, we leave it to themselves to reconcile such conduct with their professed regard for "justice," &c.: we shall not attempt it. As to any "misrepresentations" in it, the Register has not pointed them out; when it shall do so, we stand ready to acknowledge and correct them.

As to the second—We again challenge them to point out the "individual aspersions," or have the charge retorted back, with force, upon themselves. *They*, indeed, may consider it an "individual aspersion," and perhaps it is,—to be told they are not so warm, as heretofore, in the support of Mr. Crawford; and we are ready to admit, that to say this now, would be a very "loose" *assertion*, if nothing more. We freely recant all we said about their moderation, as being totally inapplicable to them at this time: such moderation as theirs is only a thread-bare disguise, which is easily seen through. But at the time we *accused* them of moderation, they did, in fact, give some evidence of it—in public.

Their *third* charge is equally unfounded, and destitute of the shadow of proof. It is, in fact, too ridiculous to deserve serious notice, and we are constrained to class it among the "farrago of inconsistencies so frequently exhibited by certain editors."—We have too good an opinion of the talents and understandings of the editors, to believe they were in earnest in making this charge; and too much respect for ourselves, to attempt a serious reply to it: we shall pass it by, therefore, with barely remarking, that it is only another evidence, how difficult it is for wise men always to act up to their character.

We have now travelled through the several charges of the Register, and given each of them a brief notice; and if any apology be due for the style of our remarks, it will be found in the Register's language towards us. We have all along been accustomed to look upon the Register with respect, both on account of the ability with which it is conducted, and the age and character of the editor; but when it stoops to play the part of a prude, and feigns a moderation which it does not feel, and a purity which it does not preserve, we shall exercise the liberty of substituting for respect, a feeling of a different nature. We are far from seeking a controversy with the Register; but we shall not shrink from it: and if the editors of that paper see fit, in the plenitude of their consequence, to fly into a passion for a trifle, and unjustly assail the character of our paper, we shall pay no deference to their fancied dignity, in repelling the attack.—The "measure which they mete to us, shall be measured to them again."

One word, in conclusion. We would advise "our *friends*" of the Register, when they again read a lecture on "moderation and decorum," to let *example* go with the *precept*; and would suggest to them the propriety of delivering their next lesson on the "Freedom of the Press," to the members of the Holy Alliance, who certainly need it, and, if they are not wanting in respect, will give heed to it. This, every sensible man will allow, will be a much more judicious course than their late one.

It will be seen, in the proceedings of the Legislature, that resolutions have been introduced into the House of Commons, by Mr. Fisher, disapproving of a *Caucus Nomination* at Washington. The resolutions were preceded by a preamble, of considerable length, in which the objections to a *Caucus* are forcibly stated, and we regret, that want of room compels us to omit it. As Mr. Crawford's only hope lies in a *Caucus Nomination*, we may calculate on witnessing all his friends in the Legislature arrayed in opposition to these resolutions; but the event will show us who are willing to trust the *people*, and who are not. The object of a Caucus, as the preamble justly observes, is "to cause some one, by means of the nomination, to be elected President, who otherwise might not be elected. If this object be not effected by it, then the Caucus was useless: if it be attained, then the conclusion is irresistible, that the *Members of Congress make the President*, and in spirit violate that sacred instrument, which they have sworn to protect." Are the people willing to be juggled out of their rights by the acting of such a farce at Washington? If they are not, let them support only such as *Electors*, who will not bow to the imperious mandate of "*King* Caucus."

We had become so accustomed, long before we had any connexion with the Observer, to the use of the word *bilingsgate*, by the *Wilmington Recorder*, when speaking of us, that we looked for it, as a matter of course, as it appeared to be the *ne plus ultra* of the Recorder's argument: it has ceased, therefore, to excite in us any other emotion than that of pity for an editor who is reduced to such shifts. In 1821, the Recorder would not "*stoop* to notice our bilingsgate;" but it seems he has lately become more pliant. Seriously, however, such affectation of purity, in any other paper, would be really disgusting; but it is perfectly appropriate in the Recorder, whose columns, for many years past, afford the most exquisite specimens of chaste and elegant language, in the editorial department.

Season of Legislation.—No less than sixteen Legislatures will probably be in session at the same time, in different States, the present winter.

A Snake Hunt.—A party of sportsmen from Milford, Ct. lately killed 750 black snakes before their return.

Were it possible that we could require fresh evidence of the anti-democratic principles of radicalism, and of the mistrust of the people which characterizes the adherents of Mr. Crawford, we shall find it in the debate which took place in the Georgia Legislature on the question of giving the choice of the electors of President to the people. On this occasion, the known personal friends and political partizans of Mr. Crawford came out in direct opposition to the measure, and with a frank and unqualified avowal of their hatred of democracy.

Mr. Thomas, of Warren, is reported as making use of the following language:

"Shall we, he inquired, throw back to the people all the rights and privileges which they have delegated to us? Will gentlemen, in their rage for improvement, plunge us into absolute democracy? This was a state of things he did not wish to see. It did not suit our times. That government is best which is mixed—made up of aristocracy, monarchy, and democracy."

The sentiments of Mr. Thomas were echoed by Mr. Law, who declared that "if democracy should prevail to its full extent, our government could not exist."

Here then we have a clear exposition of the creed of Mr. Crawford. His party is anti-democratical; and the principle which it lays down, is, that the people cannot be trusted with their own rights, and therefore must be placed under the vigilance and direction of those who can judge for them.

[*Washington Republican.*

The brig Phœbe Ann, Holmes, from New-York for New-Orleans, got ashore on a reef of Rocks off Key West on the 28th ult. at 4 o'clock in the morning—after throwing over dry goods to the amount of about 12,000 dollars, was got off at 2 o'clock next morning, without much injury to the vessel.

DIED,

In this town, on Saturday last, after a protracted illness, William Robeson, aged 22 years, a young man of exemplary character, and respected by all who knew him.

Near Georgetown, D. C. on the 1st instant, Baron Frederick Greuhn, Minister from the Prussian government to the United States.

MARINE NEWS

PORT OF WILMINGTON, N. C.

FROM THE CAPA-FEAR RECORDER, DEC. 6.

ARRIVED.

Brig Superior, Tilly, from New-York, to E. Tillen.

Brig Pocahontas, Foster, from Providence, to Wm. H. Lippitt.

Sch'r. Boxer, Small, from Boston.

ARRIVED,

Since the Recorder of last Saturday,

Brig Planter, from New-York, with dry goods.

Brig Union, Clark, from Salem, with domestic goods, to Nathan Bridge.

Schooner Hannah Ann, Batcheldor, to T. Savage jun. & Co. from Guadaloupe, with 42 hogsheads Molasses.

Brig William and Mary, from Port-au-Prince, with Coffee, to Stow and Whittier.

Brig Alexander, Saunders, from Trinidad, with Molasses and Sugar, to Archibald Taylor.

Brig Byron, Gould, from Port-au-Prince, with Coffee, to Lazarus and Whitmarsh.

Below—Ship Frederick from New-York, to Lazarus and Whitmarsh.

Ship Minerva, ditto, to W. H. Lippitt.

CAROLINA HOTEL.

On Market Street, West of the Public Square,

AND OPPOSITE TO MR. ANDERSON'S.

THE subscriber respectfully informs his friends, and the public generally, that he has taken the well known establishment formerly occupied by Major John Jennings as a public house, where nothing in his power shall be wanting to give satisfaction to those who may favour him with a call. He will take Boarders by the week, month, or year, on moderate terms.

W. F. SMITH.

Cheraw, S. C. 26th Nov. 1823.—4t31.

*** His Stables are well supplied with good Provender and attended by faithful ostlers.

Will be Rented,

On the premises, for twelve months, on the 1st. day of January next, that well known Plantation called Stewartsville, the late residence of James Stewart, decease, situate on the road leading from Fayetteville to the Long Bluff; being 40 miles distant from the former and 30 miles from the latter. There are 140 acres of land under cultivation, all of which is enclosed by a good fence; and as regards their fertility, inferior to none in this section of the country. This place possesses many superior advantages, having an excellent dwelling-house and kitchen, with suitable out-houses, which render it a good stand for a tavern.

Also, a new and well finished store and ware house, in which its late proprietor conducted the mercantile business for a length of time. The place is so well known, that a further description is deemed unnecessary. Persons wishing to rent, would do well to view the premises. Bond, with approved security, will be required.

HECTOR MACEACHIN.
Guardian.

Richmond County N. C Dec. 8, 1823.—3t30.

NOTICE.

THE subscribers having qualified, at the last Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, for Cumberland County, as Executors to the last Will and Testament of Thomas Harrison, dec'd. late of this town, give notice to all persons indebted to the estate of said dec'd. to come forward and make immediate payment; and all persons having demands against the same, to present them for settlement within the time required by act of Assembly, in such case made and provided, otherwise they will be barred of recovery.

HUGH M'LAURIN, } *Ex'rs.*
HENRY W. AYER, }

Further Notice.

Will be sold, on Friday, the 9th of Jan. 1824,

THE entire Stock in trade of the said Thomas Harrison, dec'd consisting, in part, of elegant ready made SADDLES BRIDLES HARNESS, &c. Leather, Hog-Skins, Bridle Bits, Stirrup Irons, &c. with a general assortment of every article necessary to carry on the Saddler's business.—Also, HOUSEHOLD AND KITCHEN FURNITURE, one handsome GIG, and one SULKEY. At the same time will be rented, the unexpired time in the House and Store lately occupied by the said deceased, on Hay-Street. Notes, at six months, with approved security, will be required.

HUGH M'LAURIN, } *Ex'rs.*
HENRY W AYER, }

Fayetteville, Dec. 10.—3t32.

PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected Weekly,

BY A COMMITTEE OF MERCHANTS.

MERCHANDISE.	Quality rated.	From D. C.	To D. C.
Beef, Fresh in Market	lb.	3	
Beef, Northern	bbl.	7 50	8
Brandy, Cogniac,	gallon.	1 25	1
Apple, plenty.	do	40	
Peach,	do.	40	
Bacon,	lb.	9	
Beeswax,	do.	30	
Butter,	do	15	
Bagging (abundant)	yard,	2	2
Coffee, Prime Green,	lb.	26	2
2d & 3d qual.	do	23	2
Candles, Mould,	do	12½	1
Spermaceti,	do		5
Cotton,	do	13	13
Corn,	bushel	35	4
Copperas	lb.	3½	
Flax	do	15	1
Flaxseed, Rough,	bushel	8	9
Flour, Fine,	barrel.	5	5
Superfine,	do		
Fish, Herrings	do	5 00	6
Mullet	do	6 00	
Feathers	lb	35	3
Gin, Holland,	gallon.	90	1
Country,	do	45	
Ginger	lb.	6	
Glass, Amer. 8 by 10	50 feet	4 00	4
10 by 12	do	5 00	6
Bottles	groce	12½	
Hides, Buenos Ayres,	lb.		
West India,	do		
Iron,	100 lb	4½ 00	5
Indigo, Bengal	lb.	2 50	
Flotant	do	3 00	
Lime,	cask.	2 00	3
Lard	lb.	8	
Leather, Skirting	do	28	
Sole	do		
Bridle	side	2 25	3
Lead, Bar	lb.	9	
Logwood	100 lb	3 00	
Molasses,	gallon	30	
Nutmegs	lb.	2 00	2
Nails, Cut, Assorted	do	8	
Wrought	do		
Nankeens, Blue	piece,	1 40	
Yellow	do	60	
Shingles	1000	1 50	2
Oats,	bush	30	
Oil, Currriers	barrel.	20	25
Linseed	gallon.	85	1
Pork	barrel.	11 00	13
Porter London,	dozen.	3 50	
Philadelphia,	g do	2 50	3
Pepper,	lb	24	25
Pimento,	do	25	26
Plaster Paris,	ton	7 50	10
Powder, Duponts,	Keg,	8 00	
Others,	do	5	7
Paints, White Lead	do	3 25	3
Spanish Brown	do	2 00	2
Yellow Ochre	do	2 50	
Rum, Jamaica,	gallon.	80	1
Wind. Island.	do	70	
New-England,	do	45	
Rice,	100 lb.	3 50	4
Raisins	box,	3 00	4
Rags	lb.	2	
Shot,	Bag,	2 75	3
Sugar, Mus. Prime,	100 lb	10 00	10
Common,	do	8 50	9
Loaf,	lb.	17	
Salt, Liverpool,	bush		
Turks Island,	do		
St. Ubes, &c.	do	80	85
Salts, Epsom	lb.	25	30
Glauber	do	7½	
Steel, American	do	8	9
E. Blistered	do	14	16
German	do	14	16
Salt-Petre	do	12½	20
Tallow,	do	6	
Tea, Imp. and Gunp.	do	1 6	1
Hyson,	do	1	1
Tobacco, Leaf,	100 lb	3 00	4 00
Manufactured,	do	5 00	
Tin, ½ x	box	16 00	17 50
Verdigris	lb	60	
Wheat,	bush	90	
Whiskey,	gallon.	40	42
Wine, Madeira, L. P.	do	2 50	4
Sicily Madeira,	do	1 25	1 50
Teneriffe,	do	1 25	1 50
Port,	do	2 00	3 25
Malaga	do	80	

Subscribers

TO the *Library of St. John's Church*, are informed, that a small but judicious selection of Books is now on hand; and that the Library is open for the delivery and reception of the same, *every Sunday afternoon*, immediately after divine service.

JOHN H. NORMENT, *Librarian.*

December 8. 1823.—3t30.

Yadkin Navigation Company.

WHEREAS the stock subscribed to this Company, having from time to time been declared due, and payment required to be made to the Treasurer, or agents of the Company, by divers advertisements in the newspapers:—NOTICE, therefore, is hereby given, to subscribers on whose stock all or any part of the 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10th instalments remains unpaid, that payment is required to be made before the 15th day of January, 1824, to William Johnson, Esq. of Sneedsborough, Anson county, or to Alexander Nesbitt, of Rowan county, agents for said Company; and that the stock of such subscribers, on which all or any part of the above instalments remains unpaid, will on that day be sold at auction, at the Court-House, in the town of Salisbury, North Carolina.

A. D. MURPHEY, *President.*

December 1, 1823.—6t34

Notice.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of Duncan McLeran, deceased, are earnestly requested to come forward immediately and make payment to the subscribers, or they will positively find their notes and accounts in the hands of an officer

JAMES M'LERAN, } *Admrs.*
ANGUS TAYLOR. }

Fayetteville, Dec. 5, 1823. 3t29

Land for Sale.

THE subscriber offers for sale the tract of LAND on which he now lives, in Chatham county, near Tyson's Mills, on Deep River, containing about nine hundred acres; a considerable part of which is bottom land, of good quality, and a sufficient quantity now under fence and ready for cultivation, to employ six or eight hands to advantage.

The improvements consist of a handsome

Young Apple Orchard,

of choice, late fruit,

A comfortable DWELLING-HOUSE, and other necessary Out-houses; all of which are situated on a hill, which commands an almost entire view of the plantation, and renders it one of the most beautiful seats in this part of the county. Persons disposed to purchase, are invited to view the premises and judge for themselves. The terms of sale will be liberal and advantageous to the purchaser; who can also (if required) be accommodated with stock, of every description. Apply to the subscriber, on the premises, or, in his absence, to Archibald M'Bryde, Esq.

WILLIAM L. HAYES.

Chatham County, Nov. 2[illegible]—2[illegible].

Blanks,

OF ALL KINDS FOR SALE AT THIS OFFICE.

POETRY.

No loose or wanton, though a wand'ring Muse.

SKETCHES OF POETRY,

BY J. W. LAKE.

Give me the friendship that enwreaths
Around the chilling cup of care;
Give me the balm soft pity breathes,
The feeling heart, the falling tear.

For 'tis not in the goblet bright
The gem of friendship glows,
'Tis like the star that shines by night,
Through winter's storms and snows.

The world—it is a bitter one,
And men are governed all by gold;
But love, in woman's breast begun,
Clings like the faithful ivy's fold.

In ruin still more tenderly,
Her faith, her friendship, purer glows;
She is the balm of misery,
The Star that shines through storms and snows.

—

Alas! that clouds should ever steal
O'er Love's delicious sky;
That ever Love's sweet sips should feel
Aught but the gentlest sigh!

Love is a pearl of purest hue,
But stormy waves are round it;
And dearly may a woman rue
The hour that first she found it.

SELECTIONS,
Literary, Religious, &c.

SCRIPTURE POETRY.

RUTH.

Traits of the Female Character.

What a beautiful Poem if I may so call it, is the Book of Ruth. Here is one of the few sweet and exquisitely faithful pictures, left us by the Ancients, of that noble tenderness which distinguishes the female character. Ruth is both the pattern and the copy of the best of her sex. It has often, no doubt, been remarked as a defect among the Poets of Antiquity, that they have so rarely exhibited Woman in all the peculiar loveliness of her nature. The Hebrews, the Greeks, and the Romans, though Sophocles and a few others may afford particular exceptions, seem to have regarded the female sex as almost below the dignity of poetical notice. When they are introduced upon the scene, it is almost always in masculine characters: they are men in women's apparel. Clytemnestra, Medea, Camilla, Amata, have all the roughness of the other sex, and but little of the tenderness of their own. Or if they are occasionally drawn with a more delicate pencil, it is only to exhibit them at the loom, amongst their maids, or engaged in their household affairs. Not to speak of the Deities, who seem to participate all the vices of the human race and none of the virtues, Penelope, nay, Andromache herself the most amiable female characters painted by Homer (who in powers of delineation was the Shakspeare of that age) are but faint and lifeless representations of Woman as she is often to be found upon the great stage of Nature. The draught of the poet was infinitely less poetical than the original. For the cold majestic housewifely deportment of Andromache towards Hector, even in the height of her grief for his departure is such as no matron who tenderly loves her husband would assume. In this respect the Moderns have not only manifested a more delicate taste and refined sensibility, but have taken a much more philosophical view of human nature. The Ancients evidently seem to have considered women as an inferior species of beings to men, which is a doctrine as illiberal as it is unphilosophical. The sneer couched in that every gender of Virgil's "*varium et mutabile semper femina*," is sufficient to indicate the opinion of the earlier ages; the literal translation of this sentence being,—Woman is a fickle and changeable *animal*. Indeed, they seldom in their writings give us any reason to suppose that they examined the subject with due attention; they do not appear ever to have justly appreciated the peculiar graces of the female mind, or the characteristic virtues of the female disposition. The Turks are said to hold that women have no souls, and I cannot but conclude the Greeks and the Romans so far barbarians, that they were wholly ignorant of a fact which I am sure needs only to be asserted to obtain general assent,—viz: the higher perfection of that quality which we denominate *soul*, in the female breast than in ours. Whatever we may arrogate in point of understanding, whatever with respect to the grander emotions;—where the finer dispositions or feelings (which we denominate, *par excellence*, soul) are concerned, it must be allowed that the sex which is pre-eminent for delicacy of outward form, is proportionably endued with those nicer refinements of the spirit.

Friendship and love are two of those gentler passions in which soul is principally concerned. And the story of Ruth appears to confirm an old theory of mine, upon the comparative capacities of the two sexes for the entertainment of these kind of emotions. It has long been a favorite opinion with me, that in the purity of friendship where love is the passion, in devotedness of heart, and strength of attachment to the object preferred, women are, generally speaking, far nobler beings than men. Indeed, if the reader agrees with me in the assertions made above, first that women are pre-eminent in soul, and secondly, that soul is predominant in love, he must of necessity also agree with me, that women love with more truth and intensity than we do; thus far, my theory is impregnable. But besides the intensity of the feeling, I think its purity in the female breast is for the most part confirmed by observation. In her loves, woman is seldom more than an ardent friend; in his, man is never less than a lover. The last and best quality engaged in this passion,—Constancy, is, however, that in which I think the nobleness of the female heart chiefly remarkable. There is a spirit of peculiar devotedness to the object of her love, in the breast of a woman, a certain *fortitude* of affection, which no changes or chances of life can discourage, which increases with adversity, and which unkindness itself cannot subdue: Woman's love, like an April flower, seems to bloom most sweetly in tears. To her, love is a second nature, the business of her life, the motive of her actions, the theme of her waking thoughts, the shadow which her fancy pursues even in slumber; it is the innate principle of her constitution; it is born with her, it grows with her heart-strings, and she rarely parts with it but with her life. Constancy is then, in her, almost an unavoidable virtue, for her happiness consists in loving and being loved, which latter constancy best ensures. By the very delicacy of her constitution she is bound to home, she is essentially domestic; her temperament therefore must be one which can be *satisfied with sameness*, else there would be no fitness between the being and its circumstances; in other words, she is of a constant, faithful disposition. Of course I shall be understood as speaking generally; there are many inconstant women. Nay, perhaps, where love is not immediately concerned, the same exquisite sensibility to every thing charming will induce fickleness: new pleasurable objects will excite new feelings.

It is from this devotedness of spirit, that I conclude, in opposition to common opinion, that women are more capable of mutual friendship than men. The domestic nature of the circumstances in which they are placed, whereby their little weaknesses are perpetually brought into collision, sufficiently accounts for the infrequency or impermanency of their friendship amongst themselves,—if such allegation be true, which I am by no means inclined to admit. Comparing them with ourselves in this particular, I dare say were Female Biography as copious and historical as ours, for every Pylades and Orestes, it would be easy to quote a Naomi and Ruth.

The story or poem, as given in the Sacred Writings, is an historical testimony in favor of the above conclusion. As well, therefore, to illustrate my position, as to make a few cursory observations on the beauties of Scripture Poetry, I beg leave to rehearse a few passages of the Book of Ruth.

And Naomi said unto her two daughters-in-law, Go, return each to her mother's house: the Lord deal kindly with you, as ye have dealt with the dead and with me.

The Lord grant that ye may find rest each of you in the house of her husband. Then she kissed them, and they lift up their voice, and wept.

I must interrupt the course of the narrative here, to remark upon the exquisite beauty of the common scriptural phrase, "they *lift up* their voice, and wept." It is not only a very bold, but a critically just metaphor; and also expresses most aptly that kind of action which generally accompanies loud weeping, where the bosom expands upwards and the head is involuntarily raised or thrown back, to give strength and freedom to the voice. The expression "to raise the voice," is much feebler, and whatever metaphor might once have been in it, is now unperceived by reason of its triteness.

And they said unto her, Surely we will return with thee unto thy people.

And Naomi said, Turn again, my daughters; why will you go with me? Are there yet any more sons in my womb, that they may be your husbands?—

And they lift up their voice, and wept again, and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law; but Ruth clave unto her.

And she said, Behold thy sister-in-law is gone back unto her people, and unto her gods: return thou after thy sister-in-law.

And Ruth said, Intreat me not to leave thee or to return from following after thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge; thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God:

Where thou diest will I die, and there will I be buried: the Lord do so to me, and more also, if aught but death part thee and me.

When she saw that she was stedfastly minded to go with her, then she left speaking unto her.

How beautiful, how affecting is this story! and how simply, yet poetically told. The chasteness and concision is peculiarly admirable. There is nothing like false ornament or ambitious decoration in the language; all is naturally and expressively related. What a pleasing image of amiability and tenderness does the second verse present; the matron blessing her two daughters, embracing them, and their returning no answer, but weeping. The loneliness, the resignation of the widowed childless Naomi, is also beautifully painted in the first. I would moreover especially point out to the notice of the reader, the mode in which Orpah's departure is made known. The sacred poet says, she "kissed her mother-in-law;" but he does not add, as a less skilful writer would have done,—and went her way. He leaves that to be implied by the remainder of the sentence. This brief way of narrating by implication, is very difficult of attainment, being apt to generate into obscurity.—And for this best quality of narration,—concise perspicuity, the scriptures, it must be acknowledged, are remarkable. There is no laborious preparation for a coming incident, no minute detail of worthless circumstantials; the writer directly, yet not abruptly, introduces the next subject at once. Ossian likewise excels in this particular. But the verses quoted above are also as poetical in their measure as in the imagery they contain. A sweet melancholy cadence runs all through them, which is commonly delightful to the ear. It is particularly remarkable in the first verse, and in Ruth's answer to Naomi. Indeed, whether we consider the music of the periods, or the strength and pathos of the sentiments, I do not think it possible to point out in any book whatever, sacred or profane, a more truly poetical passage than this answer of Ruth. What an eloquence breathes through it, how forcible are the expressions, and how impassioned the manner. That spirit of devotion and determinedness of constancy, which I noted as a characteristic of the female disposition, is here most strikingly displayed.—Ruth persists to the verge of obstinacy in accompanying her mother-in-law, and will not be persuaded even by the person she loves so ardently. The expression 'Ruth *clave* unto her,' denotes this amiable persistance very happily.

In the several accounts which historians have given us of friendship between man and man, we see much nobleness of mind, much firmness of purpose displayed. Pylades and Orestes, Damon and Pythias, are splendid examples of honor, magnanimity, courage and fidelity. But yet, if we curiously examine these stories we shall find that the peculiar devotedness of spirit which I am inclined to attribute to the female sex, is never dwelt upon by the historian, never brought out into the foreground, never particularly insisted on as the sole ruling motive of action. There is always some other inducement, some *selfish* principle leading one or other of the parties to the commission of the said act of friendship, some motive of action beside the apparent one. Thus we are told in the story of Theseus and Pirithous, that one of these heroes accompanied his friend to hell (by which some difficult adventure was figured.) Here is fidelity to be sure, but this was clearly not the only motive. The principle of *honour* was another incitement, and quite distinct from love or friendship. The *glory* of the action was a third. It is to the book of Ruth we must turn, if we look for an historical example of pure and disinterested friendship. The fidelity of Ruth was built upon the single motive, love; there was here no debt of honor to be paid, no fame or glory to be won. She followed Naomi from the sole and simple impulse of generous affection. And how beautifully this is set forth by the sacred poet, it is needless to observe.

And Naomi had a kinsman of her husband's, a mighty man of wealth, of the family of Elimelech, and his name was Boaz.

And Ruth, the Moabitess, said unto Naomi, Let me go into the field, and glean ears of corn after him, in whose sight I shall find grace. And she said unto her, Go, my daughter.

Here is another remarkable instance of that direct and simple brevity which renders the style of those writings so animated; "And she said unto her, Go, my daughter."

Ruth goes into the field to glean after the reapers, and there it was "her hap to light on a part of the field belonging unto Boaz." Boaz enquires of his servant, "What damsel is this?" and learning her story, addresses her:

Then said Boaz unto Ruth, Hearest thou not, my daughter? Go not to glean in another field, neither go from hence, but abide here fast by my maidens.

Let thine eyes be on the field that they do reap, and go thou after them: Have I not charged the young men, that they shall not touch thee? And when thou art athirst, go unto the vessels and drink of that which the young men have drawn.

Then she fell on her face, and bowed herself unto the ground, and said unto him, Why have I found grace in thine eyes, that thou shouldst take knowledge of me, seeing I am a stranger?

And Boaz answered, and said unto her, It hath fully been shown me, all that thou hast done unto thy mother-in-law, since the death of thine husband: and how thou hast left thy father and thy mother, and the land of thy nativity, and art come unto a people which thou knewest not heretofore.

What an excellent moral lesson is here conveyed. Ruth's virtuous fidelity to Naomi is rewarded by the protection of Boaz. Indeed the whole story is a striking exemplification of retributive justice; Ruth is preferred not only to be the wife of "a mighty man of wealth," but to be the ancestress, in a direct line, to the Messiah, for her goodness of heart and innate amiability of disposition, as displayed in her conduct towards Naomi. But let the historian speak:

And when she was risen up to glean, Boaz commanded his young men, saying, Let her glean even among the sheaves, and reproach her not.

And let fall also some of the handfulls on purpose for her, and leave them that she may glean them, and rebuke her not.

There is a kind of rude delicacy in this proceeding of Boaz, which perhaps would be but ill exchanged for the more refined gallantry of modern times. His attentions towards Ruth are quite in the spirit of the simplicity which prevailed in those unpolished ages, yet Raleigh himself could not have more adroitly contrived to furnish the Beautiful Gleanor with an abundant gathering.

Ruth then returns with her gleanings to Naomi, who upon hearing of the favor she had obtained in the sight of Boaz, advises her to solicit his protection according to the ceremonial of the Jews.

Ruth accordingly performs this ceremonial, and, as the reader is doubtless aware, is finally married to Boaz:

So Boaz took Ruth, and she became his wife—and she bare a son.

And the women said unto Naomi, Blessed be the Lord which hath not left thee this day without a kinsman, that his name may be famous in Israel.

And he shall be unto thee a restorer of thy life, and a nourisher of thine old age: for thy daughter-in-law which loveth thee, which is better to thee than seven sons, hath borne him.

And Naomi took the child, and laid it in her bosom, and became nurse unto it.

With this beautiful image of the grateful widow with her daughter's child in her bosom, the sacred author concludes his interesting, his pathetic, his incomparable story.

Reverting to my theory concerning Friendship, it may be asked, Is not Orpah's departure as unfavorable to your opinion, as Ruth's permanence is to the contrary? No: no more than the comparative weakness of Cæsar's boatman, is an argument against the courage of our sex, because he was not as brave as Cæsar himself. A much more plausible objection would be, that although friendships amongst women are, from their spirit of constancy, more permanent *when made*, yet that there is no natural tendency in that sex towards mutual friendship. This may be very true, and when I see it proved, I shall believe it. To say, however, that Woman's love for the other sex interferes with her love for her own, goes but a very little way in advancing this proof,—for is not Man in an exactly similar predicament? We are told: Men, after marriage, frequently preserve their friendships as close as before; women generally, after the same ceremony, sacrifice theirs. Granting the fact, what does it prove? That women are more inconstant than men? Certainly not: but that their domestic duties prevent them from cultivating friendship as sedulously as before, and that this noble feeling declines, and perhaps gradually dies, as all feelings will, which are thus cut off from exercise. Those also who assert that women have not greatness of mind to entertain friendship, would do well to recollect that they have softness and amiability of disposition, which is much better. Besides, I have Shakspeare on my side, whose

——name is a tower of strength,
Which they upon the adverse faction want.

We cannot, surely, forget Helena's address to Hermia, when Oberon had thrown his enchantments around them.

Have all the counsel that we two have shared,
The sisters' vows, the hours that we have spent,
When we have chid the hasty-footed time
For parting us—O, is all now forgot?
All school-days' friendship, childhood innocence?—
We, Hermia, like two artificial gods,
Have with our needles created both one flower,
Both on one sampler, sitting on one cushion;
Both warbling of one song, both in one key;
As if our hands, our sides, voices, and minds,
Had been incorporate. So we grew together,
Like to a double cherry, seeming parted,
But yet an union in partition.
Two lovely berries moulded on one stem:
So, with two seeming bodies, but one heart.
Midsummer Night's Dream.

Here is Shakspeare, who seems to have made for himself a window in every human breast, here is the Grand Inquisitor who penetrates with an intuition almost supernatural the mysteries of this "little world of man," here is the infallible interpreter of Nature, Shakespeare himself, delineating a picture of friendship the most perfect; and who compose the group on the foreground? *Women!* Now I put it to the candour of the reader, would Shakespeare have drawn such a vivid picture of female friendship, unless the propriety of it had been suggested to him by his previous observation of human nature? Why did he never think of depicting two *boys* in such an attitude?

ANTIGONE is another instance of female devotedness. In defiance of the king's edict, she piously inters the body of her brother Polynices, and according to the penalty denounced, is *buried alive!* Moreover, ELECTRA sacrifices her own mother to avenge her father's death; and it is especially worthy of notice, that her brother Orestes, who had the same reason to perform this revolting deed of justice, is quite a secondary personage in the tragedy, he is little more than a passive instrument in the hands of Electra. So that in both these cases, whether considered as matters of history or poetical fiction, fidelity of spirit is assigned to the female sex, as a characteristic attribute distinguishing them above men. I do not, however, adduce either deed as a proof of woman's constancy of *affection*; they were rather acts of heathen piety. Much less are the Antigone and Electra of Sophocles to be looked upon as favourable pictures of the sex in general, nor as exonorating the poets of antiquity from the imputation of apathy with respect to the peculiar beauty of the female character. They are both, especially the latter, marked by a spirit of fierceness, which is by no means amiable. Antigone in the Œdipus Coloneus (which affords another instance of devotedness, in the same person,) is a far more faithful copy of woman in the best array of her virtues. But where shall we find the tenderness, the delicacy of soul, the fineness of sensibility, and all the mild excellencies of female character, pourtrayed with such exquisite truth and feeling, as in our own Juliet, Desdemona, Ophelia, Cordelia, Imogen, Hermione, and Marinda? Boaz is alone worthy to join such a band of sister Perfections. (*National Gazette.*

TO THE EDITOR OF THE OBSERVER.

Perhaps you may be the means of doing good by publishing the enclosed in your paper. I do not recollect of ever having seen the same ideas contained in so small compass; and certainly their dissemination cannot become too general.

Q.

—

DRUNKENNESS.

If you wish to be always thirsty, be a Drunkard; for the oftener and more you drink, the oftener and more thirsty you will be.

If you seek to prevent your friends ruining you in the world, be a Drunkard; that will defeat all their efforts.

If you would effectually counteract your own attempts to do well, be a Drunkard; you will not be disappointed.

If you wish to repel the endeavors of the whole human race to raise you to character, credit, and prosperity, be a Drunkard; you will most assuredly triumph.

If you are determined to be poor, be a Drunkard; and you will soon be ragged and pennyless.

If you wish to starve your family, be a Drunkard; for that will consume the means of their support.

If you would be imposed on by knaves, be a Drunkard; for that will make their task easy.

If you wish to be robbed, be a Drunkard, which will enable the thief to do it with more safety.

If you wish to blunt your senses, be a Drunkard; and you will soon be more stupid than an ass.

If you would become a fool, be a Drunkard; and you will soon lose your understanding.

If you wish to unfit yourself for rational intercourse, be a Drunkard; for that will render you wholly unfit for it.

If you are resolved to kill yourself, be a Drunkard; that being a sure mode of destruction.

If you would expose both your folly and secrets, be a Drunkard; and they will soon run out as the liquor runs in.

If you think you are too strong, be a Drunkard; and you will soon be subdued by so powerful an enemy.

If you would get rid of your money without knowing how, be a Drunkard: it will vanish insensibly.

If you would have no resource, when your labor, but a work-house, be a Drunkard, and you will be unable to provide any.

If you would be a pest to Society, be a Drunkard; and you will be avoided as infectious.

RELIGIOUS.

SABBATH MORNING.

We should endeavor to be content with every thing, in every state, which it is in our power to remedy. There is no situation so miserable, in which, if we please, we cannot find something to be grateful, many sources of contentment.—A querulous temper should be immediately resisted, and with a little self-command we may easily acquire a habit of patient endurance.—Why should we allow ourselves to complain without some prospect of benefit? We may not hope always for sympathy, and there is danger of rendering ourselves more unhappy, in consequence of wearying others with the repetitions of our petty troubles. After all, if we should examine ourselves carefully, we should find, that many subjects of complaint were imaginary. We think their numerous cares a burthen, and murmur that so much of their time must be occupied about trifles: but if they are necessary, they should in the performance of them think themselves in the way of duty, and repine not. Let such reflect, that perhaps they are happier, and more useful, than they would be without care. There are many, we believe, who have serious cause for lamenting, that their time is too much occupied. Any innocent employment is better than idleness, and the man who is constantly engaged, will seldom be unhappy. If we cannot find any thing for our hands to do, we may always turn our eyes inward upon our own mind, and find profitable employment. We may give to the poor and afflicted some of our hours of leisure. Ought we not also to be cheerfully submissive at all times, and under all circumstances, to the will of our heavenly Father? Let us strive to be contented and grateful from inclination as well as duty. People are apt to give indulgence to their grief, without making sufficient efforts to control their feelings. We do not know what we are capable of doing, unless we make and persevere in the attempt. How much has been done by our Creator to render us happy, that it seems like disobedience if we will to yield to depression. The Christian should present an example of cheerfulness, even if it were only to convince others, that being possessed of a belief and of hopes sufficient to support him in every condition. He should be alarmed if you are called by some to be miserable. You will be thought so only by those who are ignorant of the "peace which passeth understanding," and which religion in christianity can alone give. What are all the pleasures, the vanities of this world compared with the cheering hopes of a christian!